

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 208879

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 208879

EXDIS, ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT REYKJAVIK 1321(DTG O/R/211920Z SEP 74)

ACTION SECSTATE INFO NATO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1321

EXDIS

DEPT PASS COMICEDEFOR, CINCLANT AND SECDEF

EO 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS - CONVERSATION WITH PRIME
MINISTER

1. PRIME MINISTER GEIR HALLGRIMSSON DROPPED BY MY
RESIDENCE THIS AFTERNOON FOR A CHAT. HE AGAIN ASKED
FOR REASSURANCE THAT WE NOT LET OURSELVES BE PUSHED
BY FONMIN BEYOND WHAT I KNOW TO BE HIS (PRIMEMIN'S)
VIEWS ON DEFENSE MATTERS. I GAVE HIM THIS ASSURANCE.

2. HE ASKED FOR COPY OF THE PAPERS FONMIN HAS IN HIS
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PAGE 02 STATE 208879

POSSESSION. I GAVE HIM A COPY OF EXCHANGE OF NOTES,

MOU, AGREED MINUTE, TENTATIVE PROGRAM AND BROAD OUT-LINE PAPER OF SEP 26 SESSION, AND COPY OF MY INFORMAL LETTER TO ANDERSEN DATED SEP 16. I DID NOT (RPT NOT) GIVE HIM COPY OF DRAFT SCENARIO REMARKS BY UNDERSEC SISCO, NOR THE PAPER ON BASE PERSONNEL RESTRICTIONS.

3. WE PERUSED THE ABOVE PAPERS, PARAGRAPH BY PARAGRAPH AND I EXPLAINED THEIR MEANING. HE AGREES WITH ALL OF IT. HE WAS GLAD TO SEE WE HELD FAST ON THE INCLUSION OF PARA B OF AGREED MINUTE (CONCERNING AUGMENTATION OF IDF DURING PEAK PERIODS OF SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITY).

4. PRIMEMIN TOLD ME HE INTENDS TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND WOULD APPRECIATE PERIODIC BRIEFINGS BY ME FROM TIME TO TIME ON MATTERS OF INTEREST TO ICELAND IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA.

5. HE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO BE BRIEFED REGULARLY ON MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN VICINITY OF ICELAND. I ADVISED HIM THAT ADMIRAL RICH AND I WOULD WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY, AND PROMISED TO SET SOMETHING UP, PERHAPS ONCE A MONTH OR EVERY FEW WEEKS AS A START.

6. HE SAID FONMIN AND HE WILL BE IN TOUCH BY TELEPHONE EVERYDAY NEXT WEEK SO AS TO GIVE FONMIN OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN RAPID ANSWERS TO MATTERS THAT MIGHT COME UP IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAYS HE SEES NO REASON WHY AGUSTSSON SHOULD NOT INITIAL THE THREE DOCUMENTS IN WASHINGTON. HE DOES NOT (RPT NOT) INTEND TO SEEK AUTHORITY FROM ALTHING FOR GOI TO SIGN THEM. HE SAID GOI HAS IT. HE WOULD LIKE IT ALL SETTLED FINALLY AND SOONEST IN OCTOBER.

7. PRIMEMIN ASKED THAT FONMIN NOT (RPT NOT) BE ADVISED OF CONVERSATION OR THAT I GAVE HIM COPIES OF THE PAPERS (MENTIONED PARA TWO, ABOVE).

8. COMMENT: THIS IS THE LAST TELEGRAM THIS EMBASSY WILL SEND ON IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS BEFORE MY DEPARTURE FOR NEW YORK TOMORROW.
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PAGE 03 STATE 208879

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